



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION - CLAIMS AMENDMENTS

1. - 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A winged injection needle comprising:

a needle tube for puncturing having a lumen, a base end, a terminus, a base end side and a forward end side opposite said base end side,

a hub for retaining the base end of the needle tube,

a hollow needle-housing member having left and right outer faces,

a pair of flexible wings projectingly formed on the left and right outer faces of the hollow needle-housing member, and

a guide tube joined to the hub, and

~~wherein the hollow needle-housing member includes at least two expanded parts spaced via a reduced diameter part, the expanded parts being expanded radially outward and allowing at least one part of the upper part of the hub to be housed therein.~~

wherein:

(1) the hub is formed to have an arced curved shape including an upper part in the axial direction, wherein said upper part is formed from a middle part forming a maximum diameter in the axial direction and two side parts forming diameters gradually reduced from the maximum diameter;

(2) the hollow needle-housing member is formed from a flexible material;

(3) the hollow-needle-housing member has at least two expanded parts each formed with an inner surface and an outer surface corresponding to the inner surface expanding radially outward, wherein the expanded parts can house therein at least one part of an upper part of the hub; and
(4) the two expanded parts are spaced via a reduced diameter part.

12.- 15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein said hub has two side faces and both side faces of the hub have a straight shape.

17. (Previously Presented) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein two of the expanded parts are provided in the vicinity of the forward end side and in the vicinity of the terminus of the hollow needle-housing member.

18. (Previously Presented) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein the expanded parts have a shape housing substantially the entire upper part of the hub.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein the pair of flexible wings are upwardly foldable and have a flexibility and a length sufficient to cover the needle-housing member, and have an immovable attachment member allowing the wings to be immovably attached to each other after covering the needle-housing member.

21. (Currently Amended) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein the rear end of the needle-housing member further includes a liquid drip prevention mechanism.

22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The winged injection needle according to Claim 21 wherein the liquid drip prevention mechanism is a member separately provided on the rear end of the needle-housing member and capable of clamping the guide tube.

24. - 25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The winged injection needle according to Claim 1 wherein the guide tube has a liquid drip prevention mechanism.

27. - 28. (Canceled)

29. (Previously Presented) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein the pair of flexible wings and the needle-housing member are formed by molding as one piece using a flexible resin.

30. (Currently Amended) The winged injection needle according to Claim 11 wherein the rear end of the needle-housing member further includes a liquid drip prevention mechanism.

31. (New) The winged injection needle according to Claim 21 wherein the liquid drip prevention mechanism is a slit provided in the rear end of the needle-housing member.

32. (New) The winged injection needle according to Claim 23 wherein the member capable of clamping the guide tube is a member having an opening capable of clamping the guide tube.

33. (New) The winged injection needle according to Claim 32 wherein the member capable of clamping the guide tube is provided on the side of the rear end of the needle-housing member, and the opening opens toward the forward end of the needle-housing member.